

THE DISTILLERY

This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Drug delivery			
Dendritic cell (DC)- mediated delivery of tacrolimus to autoreactive T cells	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest DCs could be useful for delivering Prograf to treat autoimmune diseases. In cell culture, DCs treated with Prograf sequestered and slowly released the drug over at least 72 hours. In a mouse model of collagen-induced arthritis, transplantation of DCs previously treated <i>ex vivo</i> with Prograf led to decreased arthritis severity compared with transplantation of untreated cells. Next steps include further defining potential autoantigens and more thorough safety testing. Astellas Pharma Inc. markets Prograf tacrolimus for various transplant and autoimmune indications. <i>SciBX</i> 6(7); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.176 Published online Feb. 21, 2013	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	Orange, D.E. <i>et al. eLIFE</i> ; published online Feb. 5, 2013; doi:10.7554/eLIFE.00105 Contact: Robert B. Darnell, The Rockefeller University, New York, N.Y. e-mail: darnelr@rockefeller.edu Contact: Dana E. Orange, same affiliation as above e-mail: dorange@rockefeller.edu